

## **The National Championships – Ardleigh 2003.**

Ardleigh SC hosted the 2003 Streaker National Championships on the 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> June. The 24 competitors were greeted by warm sunny conditions and a light variable wind, which would test their skill and patience.

Race 1; the fleet was keen to get away, too keen in fact, which resulted in a general recall. At the second time of asking Dan Rimmer (Covenham SC) reached the windward mark first, followed by Mike Rimmer (Covenham SC), Dave Butler (Blackpool LCC), Nick Lovell (Covenham SC) and Ian Whitfield (Tamworth SC). These places remained until Whitfield capsized at the windward mark on the second lap causing the mark to break free from its anchor and drift downwind. This caused havoc on the next lap as half the fleet missed this mark out altogether, which left the OOD with little choice but to abandon the race.

Race 2; Dan Rimmer was again leader around the windward mark followed by Mike Rimmer and Whitfield in close attendance. Downwind Lovell and Alan Ward (Ulley SC) passed Mike Rimmer to join the leaders. Towards the end of the lap the wind dropped completely and caused the rest of the fleet to bunch up with the leaders. On the second lap Dan Rimmer led until the wind disappeared again on the third lap, allowing Lovell to take over the lead. Ian Fletcher (Toway BC) manager to drop from 5<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> in 2 legs, proving just how difficult the conditions were. Lovell held on to win from John Burgoine (Tamworth SC), Mike Rimmer and Whitfield.

Race 3; Due to no wind the start was delayed for 55 minutes. When the fleet eventually started Lovell led followed by Burgoine, Mike Rimmer and Andrew Kissick (West Lancs. YC). As the wind dropped to nearly zero the fleet bunched and drifted around the first lap, by the second lap Kissick had taken the lead closely followed by Lovell and Burgoine. The race was shortened much to the relief of the fleet and at the finish Lovell pipped Kissick for the win with Burgoine third and Dan Rimmer fourth.

Sunday morning dawned with a fresh S/E breeze.

Race 4; started in a force 2-3, Whitfield led at the first mark from Kissick, these two developed a small lead from Mike Rimmer and Dan Rimmer. On the second lap both M & D Rimmer passed Whitfield and Kissick and were joined by Steve Garrett (Bexley SC). Places changed frequently between the leaders until the final lap when Garrett led closely followed by Lovell until the penultimate beat when Garrett went to the right side of the beat but Lovell kept left to take the lead which he held to the finish with Garrett second, Whitfield third and Dan Rimmer fourth.

Race 1; re-run from Saturday. With a freshening force 3 and a general recall Mike Rimmer led at the windward mark followed by Lovell, Burgoine and Garrett. Lovell passed Mike Rimmer and pulled out a small lead on the second lap but was then passed by Burgoine during the beat on the third lap. Burgoine held on to take his first win with Lovell just pipped by Garrett on the line.

Race 5; with 3 wins Lovell had secured the championships and decided to sit this one out, however there was still plenty to race for lower down the order. The wind was gusting force 4 and Whitfield was the early leader followed by Burgoine, Mike Rimmer and Zoe Meynell (Scaling Dam SC), by the start of the second lap the leaders had been joined by Kissick and these five opened a small lead on the fleet. On the final lap Burgoine and Mike Rimmer both passed Whitfield and held their positions until the finish with Meynell fourth.

Nick Lovell deserved to win his first championship demonstrating an ability to master Saturday's testing conditions as well as the freshening breeze on Sunday.

Ian Fletcher (1332)

List of Prizewinners.

Tate and Lyle National Championship Trophy	Nick Lovell	Covenham SC
Downs Cup	John Burgoine	Tamworth SC
Viking Trophy	Nick Lovell	Covenham SC
Ripon Horn	Nick Lovell	Covenham SC
Heron Salver	Nick Lovell	Covenham SC
Blackpool Bailer	John Burgoine	Covenham SC
Scaling Belle Cup	Zoe Meynell	Scaling Dam SC
Under Trophy	Matt Whitfield	Tamworth SC
Over Trophy	Ian Whitfield	Tamworth SC
Well Over Trophy	Mike Rimmer	Covenham SC
Past it Trophy	Alan Simmons	Lancing SC
Altogether Shield		Covenham SC
Cadzow Trophy (Concours d'Elegance Trophy)	Andrew Kissick	West Lancs. YC

**STREAKER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

**ARDLEIGH 2003**

FINAL POS.N	SAIL No.	HELM	CLUB	POINTS - RACE No.					TOTAL POINTS
				1	2	3	4	5	
1	1541	NICK LOVELL	COVENHAM	3	1	1	1	DNC	6
2	1528	JOHN BURGOINE	TAMWORTH	1	2	3	7	1	7
3	1404	STEVE GARRETT	BEXLEY	2	6	OCS	2	7	17
4	1548	IAN WHITFIELD	TAMWORTH	9	4	8	3	3	18
5	1561	DAN RIMMER	COVENHAM	6	5	4	4	6	19
6	1504	MIKE RIMMER	COVENHAM	8	3	9	8	2	21
7	1557	ALAN WARD	ULLEY	4	7	7	5	9	23
8	1551	ANDREW KISSICK	WEST LANCS	11	DNSO	2	6	5	24
9	1524	ZOE MEYNELL	SCALING DAM	5	8	10	9	4	26
10	1554	DAVE BUTLER	BLACKPOOL LCC	12	12	5	12	10	39
11	1523	IAN MANSFIELD	ARDLEIGH	10	9	12	13	8	39
12	1549	PAUL HUSTER	PRIORY	7	10	11	16	15	43
13	1483	ALLAN RAISTRICK	PENNINE	13	14	15	10	14	51
14	1332	IAN FLETCHER	TOWY	14	15	6	17	DNC	52
15	1499	ALAN SIMMONS	LANCING	18	16	13	11	13	53
16	1506	GEOFF BIRCH	HAVERSHAM	15	13	17	14	11	53
17	1446	MATT WHITFIELD	TAMWORTH	16	11	18	15	12	54
18	1458	DAVE SHUSTER	DEBEN	17	17	DNC	19	16	69
19	1355	DAVE SAVAGE	ARDLEIGH	19	18	16	22	18	71
20	1526	PETER CROOKS	FILEY	20	20	14	18	DNF	72
21	15*	CATHIE SHUSTER	DEBEN	21	19	DNC	21	17	78
22	1250	GAVIN THOMSON	ARDLEIGH	DNC	DNF	DNF	DNF	DNF	91
23	1444	JOHN KING	ARDLEIGH	DNC	DNC	DNC	20	DNF	92
24	1292	RICHARD STEDMAN	ALTON WATER	DNC	21	DNC	DNF	DNC	93